

**Question for written answer E-003633/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Barbara Kappel (ENF)

Subject: Spectrum

The new Commission proposal on spectrum contains many provisions which will bring benefits for the European economy, in particular telecommunications firms, and for consumers. Whilst the flexibility criteria mean that planned arrangements for the allocation of the 700 MHz band of the spectrum meet almost all the relevant requirements, the proposals concerning the sub-700 MHz band still leave something to be desired.

1. Although SDL is a sound approach when it comes to regulating coexistence between telecommunications and broadcasting services, it may give rise to technical limitations in respect of future use of the sub-700 MHz band. What view does the Commission take of this problem concerning use of the best available technology and meeting medium- and long-term needs in the telecommunications sector?
2. What view does the Commission take of the problem outlined in paragraph 1 in the context of the introduction of the 5G standard?
3. If Member States choose use option referred to in paragraph 1, they would allocate individual spectrum blocks for SDL in accordance with national rules. This would give rise to a non-uniform spectrum-use landscape in Europe, hampering the development of a harmonised approach and creating problems in the area of mobile broadband use in particular. What view does the Commission take of this state of affairs?